

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
Appln. No. 10/775,203
Docket No. Q79676

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejection of independent claims 1 and 5 at least because there is no combination of Kobayashi and Tournier that would reasonably teach or suggest all of the claims' recitations.

The Examiner alleges that Kobayashi discloses a wire connection portion that is uniformly reduced over an entire length of the connection portion. However, Kobayashi does not disclose that a wire connection is *uniformly reduced* over an entire length of the connection portion. In fact, Kobayashi merely discloses that the compression terminal 10 for the cable conductor is compressed and connected to the cable conductor 3A by hydraulic pressure pressing. Kobayashi at para. 11. Hydraulic pressing is generally used for connecting this kind of pressing machine. That is, the terminal pressing machine is a normal pressing machine which cannot compress the terminal so as to uniformly reduce the wire connection portion.

Furthermore, the Examiner acknowledges that Kobayashi does not disclose that the wire connection portion is pressed radially over both an entire periphery and an entire length of the wire connection portion. Therefore, the Examiner looks to Tournier's end member 10.

However, even assuming *arguendo* that Kobayashi discloses a wire connection portion that is uniformly reduced over an entire length of the connection portion, Tournier does not necessarily disclose that a connection portion is pressed uniformly radially over an entire periphery of the wire connection portion. In fact, the fact that Tournier's die 40 includes two half shells that are closed onto the cylindrical portion 22 means that it is possible that the pressing force is not uniform in the radial direction. For example, the pressing force of the two half shells might be reduced at positions where the two shells are adjacent to one another.

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Moreover, even assuming *arguendo* that the pressing force of the die 40 is radially uniform, Applicant sees no suggestion to modify Kobayashi's compression terminal to use Tournier's die 40. Although Tournier's end member is pressed radially over a length of the cone-shaped portion 24, the diameter of Tournier's end member 10 is not reduced uniformly. Instead, the outside diameter of the end member 10 is reduced by different amounts over the length of the connecting portion so that the final outside diameter of the connecting portion is substantially equal to the initial diameter of the cable and core. *See* Tournier at Figs. 2D-2F.

This reduction in the diameter of the cone-shaped portion 24 is caused by simply moving the die 40 axially with respect to the end member, and not by pressing the end member with a uniform radial pressure. In fact, if one wished to reduce the diameter of Kobayashi's cylindrical connection portion radially uniformly, then using a die that moves axially, such as Tournier's die 40, would not provide the desired result. Instead, the use of Tournier's die 40 is predicated on the use of a cone shaped connection portion.

As such, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejection of independent claims 1 and 5.

Moreover, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejection of dependent claims 2 and 6 at least because of their dependency from claims 1 and 5, respectively.

Finally, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejection of dependent claim 9 at least because of its dependency from claim 1 and because Ikeno, which was cited by the Examiner as showing a rotary swaging machine, does not cure the deficiencies in the combination of Kobayashi and Tournier discussed above.

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Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

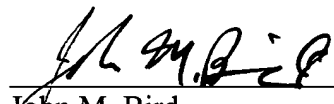
Respectfully submitted,

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